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LSU SHREVEPORT

Louisiana State University in Shreveport

the ALMAGEST

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Pilots take GCAC Championship

by Mike Schwalke

The LSUS Pilots are the GCAC champions for the first time ever. The Pilots downed their conference rival Spring Hill College 114-99 at the Dock in front of a packed house.

After being defeated in a triple-overtime thriller in Mobile, Ala., earlier in the regular season, the Pilots were able to defeat the Badgers late in the season to help cement their No. 1 seed and home-court advantage in the conference tournament.

"Even when we lost (at Spring Hill) earlier in the season, we always felt we were the better team," senior post Jeremy Johnston said.

Of course, the Pilots' offense featured a heavy dose of guard Frederico Payne. Payne led all scorers with an astounding 40 points. "It's my last time in the Dock; I had to give the fans something to remember," Payne said.

Junior guard Josh Porter said, "It's always good to beat a rival. It gives us an extra edge."

The next stop for the Pilots is the NAIA Tournament in Kansas City. The Pilots entered the last week of the regular season with a No. 1 NAIA ranking, but despite winning 11 games in a row, the Pilots managed to drop a spot.

"We want a national championship," head coach Chad McDowell said.

The Pilots pressed the Badgers hard in the first period and developed a swarming phalanx in the key to prevent the Badgers from getting many inside shots. But it was outside shooting that allowed Spring Hill to close in on LSUS' lead in the last minutes of the first period. Payne's three-pointer at the buzzer put the Pilots up by a mere nine points at the half.

The Pilots fought to hold a double-digit lead at the end of the first period, but the feisty Badgers were willing to match the Pilots' physicality.

"(The officials) weren't calling fouls down low, so we picked it up on defense," Johnston said.

At the start of the second period, the Badgers came in with a renewed energy. Spring Hill exploded with a 17-6 run to take a narrow lead with just under five minutes played. Four of the Pilots' points in that stretch came off of free throws.

Free throws were all the Pilots needed to keep a meager lead in the middle of the second period. Although Spring Hill was breathing down their necks, the Pilots recaptured the momentum with scrappy, aggressive play. But with only 10 minutes left in the second, the Pilots held a tenuous seven-point lead.

The Pilots kept the momentum going in their favor and regained a double-digit lead with just less than two minutes remaining. The Pilots never relinquished that lead and with a minute left in the contest, smiles began sprouting on the player's faces.

McDowell had said he wanted to win the conference, the conference championship and earn a No. 1 ranking. The Pilots accomplished all three this season. "I'm not the man of the hour," McDowell said. "I'm just the man who coaches the men of the hour."

Photo Courtesy of Gregg Trusty

CAMPUS • 6

Campus crime
Intruder in LSUS apartments startles students

CAMPUS • 4

LSUS and La Tech?
The facts behind the rumored merging of LSUS and La Tech

the Almagest

Volume 48, Issue 6

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"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Eric Pulsifer, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be submitted to the Almagest office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by *the Natchitoches Times*.

Corrections

On February 23 in the story "Homosexuality in the Bible" we included a quote from Dr. Adrienne Critcher that was arranged incorrectly.
See this week's Letters to the Editor.

Letters to the Editor

Beads, Breasts and Political Unrest

Six months ago, our state, along with the whole Gulf Coast region, suffered through one of the worst disasters in the history of our country. At New Years, on my first visit to New Orleans since the disaster, I took a self guided tour of the city, including the Ninth Ward and the lower-lying lakefront areas. Images on television can't do justice to the destruction that "the bitch Katrina"—as the storm has been dubbed by the tourist T-shirt stand gods—wreaked on our southern sister metropolis. For some reason I didn't fully absorb the scope of damage I was witnessing on that first trip. My return for Mardi Gras last week helped me gain a better perspective on what I had missed the first go 'round.

The population of New Orleans has been halved. Entire neighborhoods exist as ghost towns, as far as the eye can see. Royal blue FEMA roof covers dominate the skyline. Wretched water lines and search and rescue graffiti outnumber the people, the heart and soul, of this place I love. As my friends and I strolled down the sidewalks of Canal Street on our first night at Mardi Gras '06, prepped for a long evening of partying, I couldn't help but see the streets under my feet inundated. When I left after New Years, I thought that by the time I made my way southward again things would be getting back to normal. Yet the only noticeable cleanup effort consisted of removing cars from under the interstate downtown to make parking room for Mardi Gras goers.

In the French Quarter, musicians strum their guitars and toot their horns, but the majority of their constituency is absent. No silver-painted statue men stand on crates sporadically shifting their poses for the viewing pleasure of passers-by. No scam artists hit you with the ole "I know where you got your shoes" wager as you trek the streets downtown. I would have gladly dispersed all my loose change among the ordinarily ubiquitous homeless population, but even they were nonexistent.

Revelers temporarily filled the void left by the previous population for a condensed version of the annual Mardi Gras festivities. Inclement weather Saturday forced many of the popular parades to reschedule, making Sunday the most parade-laden day of the weekend. Bourbon Street was the norm. Bare flesh and beads juxtaposed with a motley mass always results in debauchery, and Mardi Gras '06 was no different down in the Quarter; it's in the outlying areas that the scenery changes.

Mardi Gras '06 encapsulated the spirit of the people left in New Orleans. Families that skipped out on the celebrating in years past all seemed to be out showing support for their fallen hometown. Politically themed floats, signs and T-shirts critical of the mayor, government and the N.O.P.D. (Not Our Problem Dude) were a hit with the crowds. Heated political demonstrations were carried out on almost every street, but the vibes remained positive, a testament to the hospitable nature of Southerners.

Questions remain about the future of the Crescent City. Mardi Gras '06 was noticeably smaller than its predecessors, indicating the long process of rebuilding still to come. A city with such a rich history should definitely be preserved to the fullest, but if the government does not rebuild the levees to Category 5 levels, what is the point in rebuilding?

Terry Hanley
Staff Writer

The Bible and Homosexuality

On February 23 in the story "Homosexuality in the Bible" we included a quote from Dr. Adrienne Critcher that was arranged incorrectly. We decided to include Critcher's original comments when we talked to her about the issue to straighten things out.

There are around seven Biblical passages that many Christians interpret as condemning homosexuality (although that word or concept was unknown in Biblical times). However, there are also Christian theologians who interpret these passages very differently. The Bible is often used to justify people's own opinions on issues. For example, the same con-

Girls & SPORTS

I DON'T LIKE HOW THESE ATHLETES ARE USING PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS
CAN'T THEY JUST BE THEMSELVES AND USE THEIR NATURAL TALENTS?
YOU READY?
NAH, I NEED ANOTHER BEER BEFORE I CAN EVEN THINK ABOUT TALKING TO A GIRL
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WEATHER

TODAY:	FRIDAY:	SATURDAY:	SUNDAY:
T-Storms	Mostly Sunny	T-Storms	T-Storms
Hi:74 Lo:50	Hi: 83 Lo: 62	Hi:80 Lo: 63	Hi: 77 Lo: 60

MONDAY:	TUESDAY:	WEDNESDAY:
T-Storms	T-Storms	Showers
Hi: 81 Lo: 59	Hi: 74 Lo: 49	Hi: 68 Lo: 47

Letters to the Editor

servative Christians who now use the Bible to condemn homosexuals used it not that long ago to justify the persecution of and discrimination against blacks. If you read the things that were said about blacks from the pulpits of conservative Christian congregations during the 60s you would be shocked. It's the very same rhetoric that now comes from these pulpits in attacks against gays and lesbians.

Remember, the Bible accepted things that today we find unacceptable: slavery and women as property. And the Bible prohibits things such as eating shrimp and wearing clothes made out of different textiles. Deuteronomy 21:18-21 advises parents to take "a stubborn and rebellious son" before city elders to be stoned to death if he will not change his ways. So no one really takes the Bible literally. We realize that society has a much better understanding of many things than it did over 2,000 years ago. We no longer consider people to be demon-possessed, and we have learned that the earth revolves around the sun and not vice versa. We have also gained a much better understanding of homosexuality. Scientists through research studies now know that homosexuality is just a natural variation in human sexuality. It is as natural for some people to be homosexuals as it is for the majority of people to be heterosexuals.

Critcher also commented on the many Gay/Straight Alliances around the country:

There are over 2,000 GSA's in the U.S. You usually find them in high schools. There are even a few in middle schools, and in very conservative areas like ours, you find them in colleges.

Critcher added:

[The story] also refers to homosexuality as a "lifestyle." It is not a lifestyle! It is a sexual orientation. Scientific studies have shown that homosexuals have as much diversity in their lifestyles as heterosexuals do.

Dr. Adrienne Critcher is a Professor of Computer Science and Adviser for the LSUS Gay/Straight Alliance

The Gospel According to Who?

Two items caught my concern in the Almagest article on homosexuality and the Bible.

First, is the misinformation contained in the article itself. The Bible study teacher at All Souls Unitarian church indicates that his study will focus on biblical texts like the "books of Leviticus and the Gospel According to Saint Paul." The significant problem with his plan is that there is no Gospel According to St. Paul in (or out for that matter) the New Testament canon. There are four canonical Gospels and Paul did not make the cut!

In addition, the article quotes the leader of the Bible study, who states that the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) contains a term that describes a "sin for which penance can be done." He is mistaken. The term "penance" is a distinctive term of the Catholic tradition (arising several millennia after the writing of the Jewish Torah) and is not a part of ancient Judaism. Thus his comment that the term "toevah" relates to penance is incorrect. Since he claims that his study focuses on "the original language of the Bible," this oversight is significant.

I appreciate the attention of the Almagest to the topic of homosexuality and the Old Testament texts. For an academic approach to these issues, I would encourage interested students to sign up for RELS 490 this fall semester. This course, Reading the Pentateuch, will take up both textual and hermeneutical issues in the Old Testaments books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. During the semester, students will study the variety of perspectives surrounding several narratives dealing with the issue of homosexual acts.

Dr. John S. Vassar
Asst. Professor of Humanities

Readers should know Vassar is certainly a reliable authority on this since he has a Ph.D. in Religious Studies. As he said "Paul did not make the cut."

From what we know, there are loads of "Gospels" that didn't make the cut for various reasons. Texts that are not considered canonical (that is, part of the Bible) are called apocryhpha. Though somewhat similar in style and age as canonical Scripture they weren't included in the Bible — some for authenticity questions and others for being radically different from canonized Scripture. Smell a conspiracy? You wouldn't be the first, but you'd probably be wrong. Calm down, Mulder. If you have to see to believe you can find them online. Just don't expect to find a "Da Vinci Code"-like cover-up. Do, however, expect lots of stuff that wouldn't have gone in the Bible for obvious reasons. Kinda interesting nonetheless.

We assumed at first that the "Gospel According to Saint Paul" might be an apocryphal writing, but, the thing is, we can't even find a "Gospel According to Saint Paul" among those, so we're assuming (until corrected) they may have meant Paul's "Epistle to the Romans." Thanks to Dr. Vassar for these corrections.

PATRIOT Act and Domestic Spying

I find myself once again in the improbable situation of agreeing with the ACLU. I am speaking of the PATRIOT Act and the domestic spying scandal, both subjects of an article by Terry Hanley in the Feb. 16 issue of the Almagest.

In the article, Hanley states that the ACLU believes the eavesdropping program to be unconstitutional, and I agree. The 4th Amendment, which deals with this very issue, states: "The right if the people be secure in their persons, houses, papers, ad effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures. To make something "reasonable," there must be a reason. The warrant is what makes a search and seizure "reasonable" by providing a reason to search or seize. Thus, a warrant is required to make an action legitimate.

Admittedly, we face a situation not foreseen by the framers of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and this situation may warrant a new method of gathering intelligence. Hanley asked Dr. Michael Leggiere about the issue, and he said "If a person has nothing to hide, they should not be bothered by the possibility of having their conversation listened to," and that he supports the government. But why should we allow the executive branch to exercise such a power at its discretion, especially when this chief executive has already ignored the explicit constitutional provision that Congress is to declare war? Is such a president (or any one man, for that matter) to be trusted with such an awesome power? And why should it all be kept secret? In a republican form of government, the idea is that the people are the ultimate source of power, and that the government is merely an agent. But if this agent has discretion to exercise in secret this kind of power, what is to stop the government from one day using the same power to arrest people for political reasons?

Abusing this program would be all too easy. The proper solution would be to amend the constitution, so that there would be no doubt as to the legality of the program, and preferably put congress in charge of the activities. Congress is more accountable to the people than the President, especially the House of Representatives, and with many men involved instead of one; the program will be carried out in a less "Monarchical" fashion, in the sense that more than one man is making the decisions.

Even this solution, however, is not without danger. No new appropriation of power is. James Madison addressed the issue of power and controlling government in the *Federalist* # 51: "If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. ...You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place obliged it to control itself. A dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government; but experience has taught mankind the necessity of auxiliary precautions." One such precaution is a written constitution, which explicitly limits the powers of the government.

In this same vein, Thomas Jefferson said, "In matter of power let no more be heard of the confidence in man but bind them down from mischief with the chains of the constitution." These men understood that though an unconstitutional course of an unconstitutional course of action may be taken for the good of the country, and in fact they did at times, it is dangerous to set such precedents for usurpation.

As Abraham Lincoln said, once you grant that the president has the power to do something at his discretion, you cannot limit him by saying that you can't see any reason for it, because that president will merely reply, "Be silent; I see it, if you don't." This is the unique problem with this issue, because there is a "catch 22." We can't look for ourselves to see if this program is operating correctly because that would "show our hand." Thus, no matter what a president does wrong, we can never learn of it.

According to Jefferson, we should never have confidence in men with power, so how much less so in a case like this, where we are literally required to have a blind faith in them?

Joshua Scott
Sophomore, Political Science

We've gotten enough letters from Joshua in the past to get the feeling that he's a pretty conservative dude. Kudos to Joshua for being one of the few on either side of the fence to judge a situation for himself and not just automatically side with the preferred political ideology. Thanks for your input.

Showing Mrs. King the Proper Respect

I just wanted to point out an error in your recent Editorial Comments. You asked the question in your comments as to who was responsible for raising and lowering the flag on campus. The answer to your question is, the University Police Department performs that task every day. You went on to comment that the Flag was not lowered on Feb. 9 when Coretta Scott King was laid to rest.

I just wanted to point out the Mrs. King was buried on Feb. 8, not the 9th, and the flag on Campus was lowered the morning of the 8th by Officer Lance Cole and raised the next day by Sergeant Rodney Christian. Apparently when you noticed the Flag on Feb. 9, it was returned to the raised position. I might also point out that the President ordered the flags at all Federal Building be lowered but there was no order to lower the flag at state facilities. The Police Department did that on our own.

Larry LaBorde
Director of University Police

Although the Almagest concedes that the flag may have been lowered on Feb. 8, the University Police Department certainly does not raise and lower the flag every day and night. As of midnight Tuesday, Old Glory was still flying high.

Rumors of merger nothing new

LSUS and La Tech merger an unconfirmed rumor

by Ragan Dickens

The rumor mills began turning last week after The (Shreveport) Times printed a story on the possibility of an LSUS merger with Louisiana Tech. Students began to get excited about the chance that classes now available at Tech might become available to LSUS and vice versa.

"I am really excited about the possibility of a merger between these two schools," said Natalie Allgood, sophomore business major. "Being a Tech transfer student, I am elated at the thought of these two universities collaborating their assets and resources."

The plan for a merger would be an even exchange with UNO for Tech. Tech would leave the University of Louisiana System and join the LSU System, while UNO would do just the opposite.

Dr. Stuart Mills, vice chancellor of academic affairs at LSUS, said, "There has been talk of a merger between the schools since 1973 when I arrived at LSUS. Does this mean that it will not happen? Absolutely not; anything can happen."

According to Mills, the reason for a merger would be to provide a comprehensive university for the Shreveport/Bossier area. To bring about this comprehensive university, a program such as engineering is needed. Also, the schools need growth in the current curricula that are already in place. Mills added that these are the ways that contribute to a city's growth.

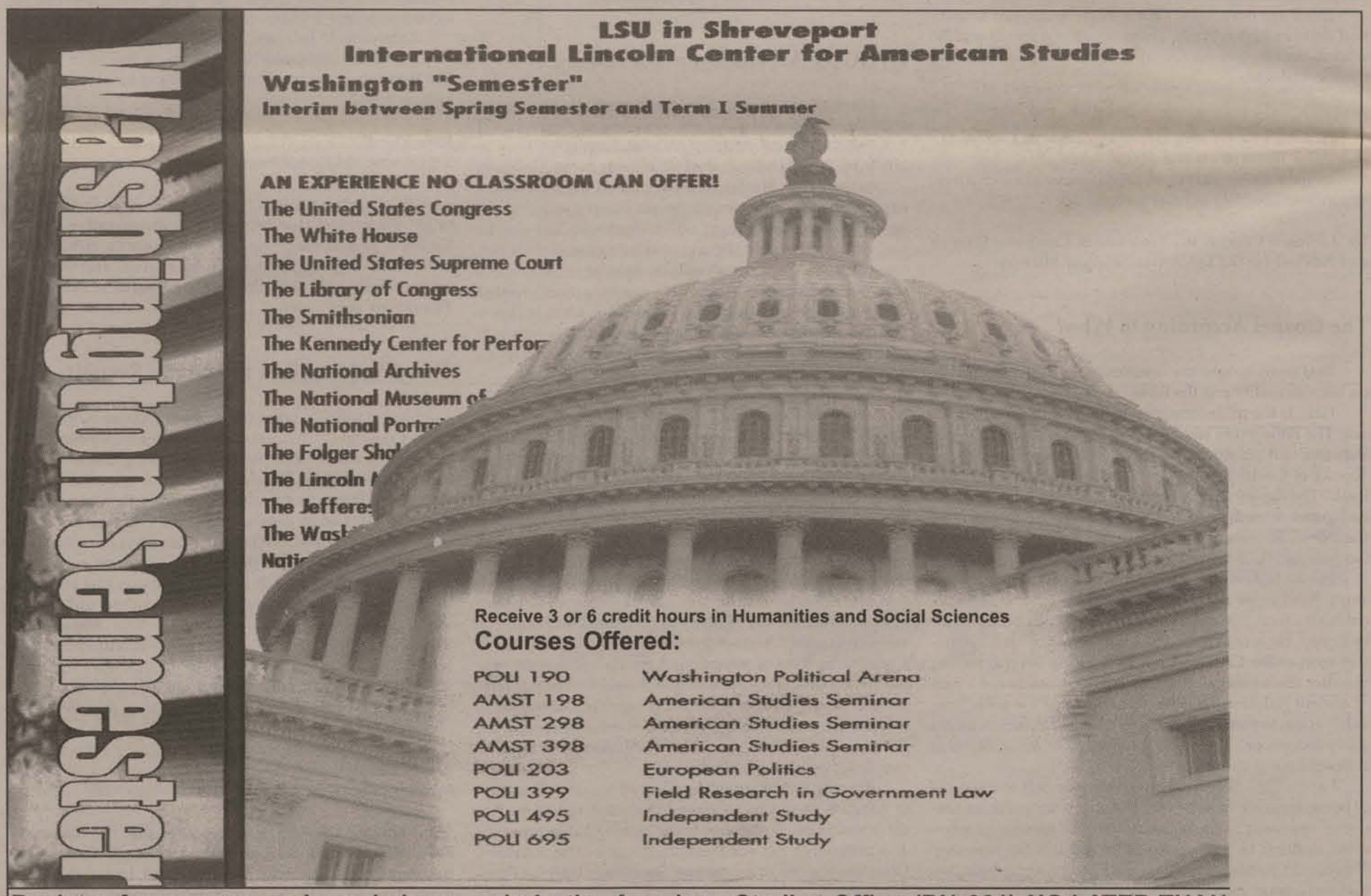
> "Does this mean anything will happen? Absolutely not; anything can happen."
>
> Dr. Stuart Mills
> Academic Affairs

A national education consultant, hired to research the possibility of a merger between LSUS and the Shreveport-based LSU Health Sciences Center, recently conducted a study finding that a merger is not necessarily the best scenario, but adding Tech to the system could make sense.

According to LSUS officials, proposals are in place for not just simply a merger, but possibly a partnership. Legislation would have to pass, along with the Board of Supervisors coming to a unanimous agreement. The Legislature will begin its regular session in two weeks, running through June.

The decision would have to be made before the end of the session to actually set the merger in motion. This partnership suggested would happen in a way that would allow professors in each department from LSUS to communicate with professors from Tech. This trading of resources could be done in areas of study such as math, English, foreign languages, and also scientific research, not to mention many other majors.

Many other unknowns come into play with the idea of a merger, such as a name change for one of the universities. Dr. Wolfgang Hinck, assistant professor of marketing, said that he is indifferent about a merger, but has seen past mergers in his home country of Germany that were not successful "due to clashes of organizational and academic cultures." The question still lingers about whether this transaction will really take place at all.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SPORTS UPDATE

GCAC Tournament Results

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Quarter Finals (3/2 @ The Dock)

LSUS 58 62 -120

SUNO 38 33 - 71

Semi Finals (3/4 @ The Dock)

LSUS 41 44 - 85

William Carey College 23 37 - 60

Finals (3/7 @ The Dock)

LSUS 61 53 - 114

Spring Hill College 52 47 - 99

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

QuarterFinals (3/1 @ No, LA)

LSUS 25 24 - 49

Loyola 30 28 - 58

Baseball

Pilots split double headers

After a commendable start to their season, the Pilots were faced with their first big challenge as they started a long road stand on Feb. 24 in Mobile, Ala., against Spring Hill College. The Pilots split the double-header against the Badgers. The Pilots also split double-headers against Central Arkansas University and Loyola University before dropping their last road game to Loyola on March 5.

"We're still missing that key pitcher out of the bullpen," LSUS head coach Rocke Musgraves said.

Musgraves noted that the Pilots' core starting pitchers, juniors Matt Clayman, Kevin Jewell and Chris Steadman, all had success. Luis Roberts, junior pitcher, had been sidelined with elbow problems but began throwing again this week.

The Pilots' hot bats have contributed to their 3-2 conference record. The team had been plagued by errors early in the season, but Musgraves said the team has tightened up recently on the road.

"Errors haven't been a problem the last few games," said Musgraves. "When the chips are down, we've got to make the play—which we have been." Musgraves also said that the Pilots' bullpen needs to keep from giving up late hits in close games.

The Pilots will take on conference foes William Carey College this weekend at Pilot Field. The first game will be on Friday at 6:30 p.m. and will be preceded by the LSUS Baseball Tailgate Bash at 4:30 p.m., sponsored by the SAB. The Pilots will play a double-header against William Carey on Saturday.

Lady Pilots sunk by Lady Wolfpack in first round of GCAC tournament

by Chrissy Chiri

Due to their number one seeding in the GCAC tournament, the Pilots have had the privilege of hosting each of their tournament games. They breezed through round one of the tourney against Southern University of New Orleans, 120-71. Six of the LSUS players finished in double figures, including GCAC Newcomer of the Year Josh Porter with 24 points and six steals.

In the second round, the Pilots took the court against the William Carey Crusaders and won handily, 85-60. Despite poor shooting, LSUS won the game on the defensive end by letting SUNO shoot only 47 shots the whole game.

On the women's side, the Lady Pilots, with a record of 13-12, finished sixth in their conference, which meant they had to travel to play third-seeded Loyola University in the first round.

The Loyola Lady Wolfpack ended their season with a 9-4 record and had won their previous two meetings against the Lady Pilots this season in conference play. Continuing their woes on the road, LSUS was not able to overcome Loyola's defense and lost 58-49.

Loyola's style of defense is unlike any other kind LSUS has seen all season. By switching all screens, the Lady Pilots have had to see their offense backwards.

"In the offenses we run, the girl we are screening for is the one who is open. But when playing Loyola, it's the screener who is open. We have to roll back to the ball to be open," head coach Ronnie Howell said before the game.

At tip-off, the Lady Wolfpack began by going up 7-0. But LSUS answered and took the lead 11-10 thanks to offensive production by junior guard Jessica Kelly. However, Loyola fought back and had the lead at half-time, 30-25.

The Lady Pilots came out hot in the second half, going on an 18-9 run and taking the lead 41-37. With the momentum going in LSUS' direction, Howell argued with the referees a tad too much and was called for a technical foul. Then the Lady Wolfpack took off and went ahead of LSUS 45-43 and never looked back.

Kelly ended the game with a double-double: 17 points and 10 rebounds. Senior forward Marcia Spyhalski had eight points and six rebounds; freshman center Janai Sells had six points; and junior guard Moche Roque had five points and four steals.

"I always felt that it is very hard to beat a team three times straight, but they (Loyola) accomplished it. I think we all played hard, but we just didn't bounce back after they went on their final run," Roque said after the game. "I know if we would have responded to them, the game would have been ours."

Spyhalski was the lone senior for the Lady Pilots and was a constant leader for her squad. She averaged 6.8 rebounds and eight points per game. She also had her career game against conference opponent, the Belhaven Blazers: 20 points with six rebounds in a crucial game for LSUS.

"Marcia's dedication and work ethic made everyone on the team respect her and also challenged us to work hard every day, just as she does," Kelly said of her teammate.

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LSUS Danceline Tryouts

8 a.m. on Saturday, March 11 in the HPE Building - Gym/Dance Studio

Cheerleading Tryouts

8 a.m. on Saturday, March 18 in the HPE Building - Gym/Mat Room

Call 795-4276 for more information

In other news

Injured cheerleader cheers on from stretcher
This has to be the best example of playing through the pain in the history of sports. A cheerleader for Southern Illinois University fell 15 feet on her head from the top of a human pyramid during a timeout routine. Kristi Yamaoka, 18, landed with such a loud thud that it was heard throughout the Savvis Center and brought the crowd of 13,969 to a dead silence. After being placed on the stretcher, Yamaoka waved to the crowd and continued to perform a cheer with her arms. She suffered a broken neck and a concussion.

75-year-old woman charged with robbery
How's that saying go: you're only as old as you feel? If that's true, a 75-year-old woman must have felt half her age when she attempted to rob a bank with an unloaded pistol on Monday. Marilyn Divine of Baldwin, Pa., walked up to the teller window wearing a gray sweat suit, a Steeler's tassel cap and a scarf pulled around her face and demanded money from two tellers while brandishing a 9 mm handgun. A former bank employee chased Divine's car until the police took over and eventually arrested her after a low-speed chase. Police recovered all the money, totaling about $5,000.

British bars selling sex toys in machines
Bars and nightclubs in London and other British cities are offering their patrons more than just a nightcap. Many late-night venues are offering clubgoers sex toys such as mini vibrators through "Tabooboo machines." The pink machines had previously been used only in public toilets under the assumption it gave buyers more privacy. These distributors of sexual pleasure are now found in hairdressing salons, health clubs, retail stores, and one bar actually placed one in the middle of the establishment. Tabooboo machines sell 11 different sex toys, and they sell for an average of 5 pounds.

Russian man to take porno mags to the grave
A Russian man has made all the necessary arrangements to ensure he will have a good time in the afterlife. Vladimir Villisov had a special coffin made that included space for his prized collection of porno magazines. After suffering a heart attack, Villisov realized he did not want to leave the magazines behind and designed the coffin that would allow him to take them with him on his eternal journey. "The girls in those magazines have been my companions for years, and I want them to accompany me to the next life," said Villisov.

She is the new homecoming...king?
Men have more competition than ever in the race to become homecoming king. Hood College in Maryland is reviewing its homecoming rules after a lesbian beat out three men for the homecoming king crown. Twenty-one-year-old senior Jennifer Jones received 64 of 169 votes cast in what was only the second annual homecoming at the school. She views the victory as a plus for the private liberal arts college in spite of the irritation expressed by many students throughout the campus about the matter. "If people didn't want me to be king, they wouldn't have nominated me and voted for me," said Jones.

Campus crime on the rise

University Court resident fends off attacker

by Derrick Mitcham

A potentially serious situation was averted earlier this week when a student living at the University Court apartments fought off an intruder and escaped to safety.

Two days ago, a man broke into an apartment at University Court apartments and assaulted the woman who lived there. The 23-year-old woman awoke to find the man in her apartment where she said he tried to rape her. She fought off the would-be attacker and once he fled her apartment, she ran to nearby Willis-Knighton Pierrmont Health Center.

No arrests have been made so far but the man is described as a white male, about 5-foot-8 with a buzz haircut and dirty blond hair. At the time of the attack he was said to be wearing a khaki uniform shirt.

Anyone with information concerning this crime should contact Sex Crimes detectives at (318) 673-6955 or Crime Stoppers at (318) 673-7373.

Another incident involved a man jumping out of his car and exposing himself to a female student as she was walking through the crosswalk by the library from the campus apartments.

Quick thinking allowed the student to take down the man's license plate number in her cell phone, she then called the campus police with the information, and they arrested the assailant the next day. The man was an illegal alien who had already once been deported out of the country.

Vehicle burglaries in the area also have LSUS on high alert. Last Wednesday, a car on campus was found burglarized, in an apparent attempt to steal the car's stereo and other valuables.

This was the only attempted break-in on campus so far, but Chief Larry Laborde is advising everyone to take the proper precautions to ensure that they don't become victims themselves.

"People should make sure that their vehicles are locked because the thieves are going after anything of value," he said. He also recommends people use common sense and watch for things that look suspicious.

Students are listening to the warnings and are taking preventative measures to make sure their things stay secured. "I lock my doors out of habit because I have stuff in my car that I don't want taken," said junior public relations major, Michael Ann Lucio.

Laborde believes the thieves are probably looking for items such as wallets, stereos, laptops, book bags and anything else of value. "Don't leave anything of value in your car, especially if it is openly visible," said Laborde.

The University Police will be patrolling the campus as usual but are trying to institute a higher level of awareness by asking everyone on campus to stay alert and contact the proper authorities if they notice any suspect activity.

Hollywood big-shot Brinkerhoff talks shop

by Terry Hanley

In the wake of tragic events America has suffered, heroes have emerged and been heralded for their accomplishments. On Tuesday, Ron L. Brinkerhoff, screenwriter for the Disney movie "The Guardian," a movie whose plot revolves around the heroics of elite U.S. Coast Guard rescue divers, came to campus for a question-and-answer session with students and faculty members.

Thanks to the English Club and the efforts of LSUS alum Quinton Bell, Brinkerhoff was able to break from his shooting schedule to attend the discussion.

"His script is absolutely awesome," said Bell, a recent graduate of LSUS's history program who has been working as a costumer on set of "The Guardian" since December.

"It gives you the idea that you can do anything," said Bell, "like you can come from LSUS and work on movies."

The 7-year screenwriter pitched "The Guardian's" script, the story of

Brinkerhoff

an aging USCG rescue diver (Kevin Costner) and his protégé (Ashton Kutcher), to Disney in 2001.

"After 9/11 I wanted to do a film to define heroism," said Brinkerhoff, "but I didn't want to do a film about firemen."

Instead he chose to revolve the plot around Coast Guard rescue divers because of the unique perspective it presented.

"They are the bastard child of the military," said Brinkerhoff. "They save lives, not take them."

After delivering a biographical synopsis of his career, the writer fielded questions from a standing-room-only audience. Amidst the bandying, Brinkerhoff explained his approach to script writing that he described as thematic. He also touched on subjects such as hiring agents ("a necessary evil"), the basics of starting a script and movie directors he would like to work with in the future.

He also gave some advice to novice writers hoping to one day make it big, encouraging them to enter one of a myriad script-writing competitions accessible to amateurs.

"They're always looking for good script writers with fresh ideas," said Brinkerhoff.

Another Disney project in the works," Ashland," as well as a Warner Brothers film titled "Fort Knox" are next on Brinkerhoff's busy work schedule.

"The Guardian" is set to be released in September.

Doing things by yourself can be weird. Eating out for dinner alone is awkward and is bound to make the patrons stare while checking out a movie by your lonesome is just plain depressing for you and the happy couples around you.

But if you're the cute and crimson-headed frontwoman of a mildly successful group of indie rockers, taking a break from the guys for some solo work must always linger in the back of your mind.

Fewer people to split the poor pay with, some room to stretch your legs in the tour van and most importantly, the chance to establish yourself as a celebrity are all fine excuses to leave the band behind.

Unfortunately for the fair-skinned front woman of Rilo Kiley, celebrity isn't an excuse.

Jenny Lewis has already had a taste of the limelight during her days as a somewhat recognizable child actress in such films as "Troop Beverly Hills" and "The Wizard."

Though her film appearances may leave something to be desired, her musical career has been much more impressive. As the leader of alt-country act Rilo Kiley she had her hand in three well-received albums, opened for Bright Eyes and Coldplay, signed with Warner Bros. and sang backup for Ben Gibbard in the Postal Service.

Jenny Lewis and the Watson Twins
Rabbit Fur Coat

"Happy," "Melt Your Heart," "Big Guns," "Rise Up With Fists," "Handle with Care"

On "Rabbit Fur Coat," her first solo outing, Lewis' country influences rise to the top in a mix of folksy rock and retro pop sounds. The album opens with a gospel-charged, slow acapella short "Run Devil Run" and then jumps into the album's most up-tempo track "Big Guns," a song that grows from a bouncy acoustic introduction and picks up steam with some nice percussion build up and a little hand clapping.

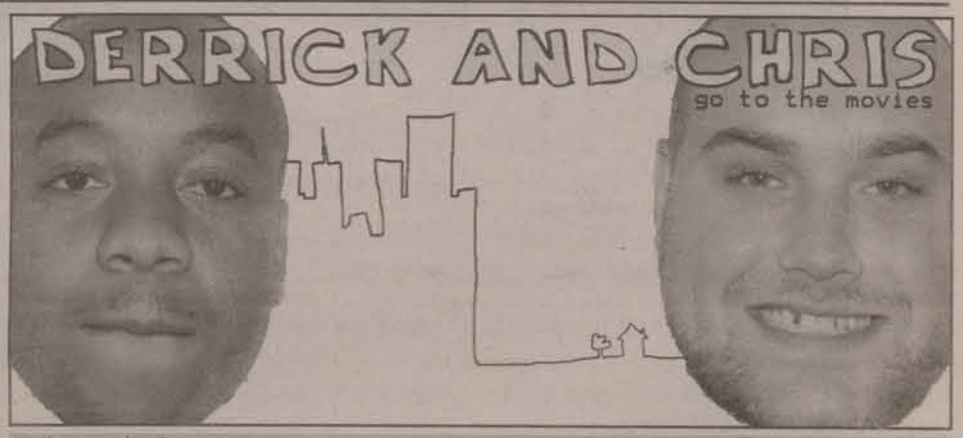
The Watson Twins' harmonies go well with Lewis' voice song after song, but the guest appearances on "Rabbit Fur Coat" are packed into just one track. Conor Oberst, Ben Gibbard and M. Ward join up with Lewis for a cover of the Traveling Wilburys' "Handle With Care."

On the intimiate "Happy" Lewis sounds like an innocent country girl with its sweet highs, while the melancholy "Melt Your Heart" showcases her sultry lower range. Her seductive voice make even duller moments like "Born Secular" and the album's title track worth a listen.

While she may not flex as much lyrical muscle as her Bright Eyes buddy Oberst, she certainly has lyrical moments that will impress and amuse attentive listeners. Issues of religion and faith are examined throughout as Lewis attempts to be a skeptical observer without succumbing to a complete cynicism.

"Rabbit Fur Coat" is a pleasant listen with some standout moments that hint at the truly great album Lewis and Rilo Kiley have yet to create.

Mar 7 New Releases: Architects "Revenge," The Buzzcocks "Flat-Pack Philosophy," Neko Case "Fox Confessor Brings The Flood," dEUS "Pocket Revolution," Devics "Push The Heart," The Duke Spirit "Cuts Across The Land," David Gilmour "On An Island," Goldfrapp "Supernature," I Love You But I've Chosen Darkness "Fear Is On Our Side," Impossible Shapes "Turn," Mogwai "Mr. Beast," Pink Mountaintops "Axis Of Evol," Rogers Sisters "Invisible Deck," Stereolab "Fab Four Suture"



"Ultraviolet"
Starring:Milla Jovovich, Cameron Bright, Nick Chinlund, William Fichtner

Chris : I need to be shot for going to see "Ultraviolet". I was looking forward to this film because I was a big fan of director Kurt Wimmer's other film "Equilibrium". "Ultraviolet" was a horrible way to follow up a good film. Wimmer should realize just because the producers give you more money doesn't mean you have to spend it all on crappy special effects.

Derrick: I couldn't agree with you more. Perhaps Wimmer should have used the extra money to buy a better story line instead of squandering it away on those utterly ridiculous special effects. "Equilibrium" probably only had half the budget, but it had double the fun.

Chris: The special effects in "Ultraviolet" looked like they belonged on a video game console. You could tell when they used CGI footage, that completely destroyed the belief that the scene was real.

Derrick: The special effects weren't the only problem. The story didn't make a bit of sense. Take the human race, pit them against a bunch of human-hating, disease-infested, powerless freaks, throw in a mute kid and there you have it—a really lame plot.

Chris: With all the money they spent on the crappy CGI they could have given the characters more abilities. What was with the fight scenes?

Derrick: The fight scenes were mediocre at best. I understand the desire to create a suspenseful moment for the audience, but there were too many times where the action was kept from the viewers, leaving people to imagine what was going on.

Chris: They tried the suspenseful approach, and all it did was annoy me. Where was the blood, all those people getting stabbed up and there was no blood? The fighting was horrible. Violet had no cool moves. The only cool fight scene was at the end of the movie, but even that was marred by crappy one liners.

Derrick: The movie was PG-13 so that explains the lack of blood. I got so sick of seeing Violet do the same moves in all her fights. I thought a choreographer's job was to design an array of movements for the characters to perform throughout a film. Looks like the makers of this movie chose a one-trick pony for their choreography needs because every fight scene looked identical. Here's the formula: spin, shoot, block, slash, and then repeat over and over.

Chris: Why was her face all shiny? Were they trying to make her look angelic or something, because she was the only one who looked luminescent. There was no emotion or substance to her performance. She sports a scowl mixed with a very teary distraught look throughout the whole movie.

Derrick: That was annoying. I noticed it on some of the other characters as well, but it was most prevalent on Violet for some reason. I'm not sure what the purpose of that was. I've seen bad acting before, and the performances in this movie rank right up there with the worst of them. Example: "You got Hemo blood on me. It is on." I didn't make that up, that's an actual line from the movie.

Chris: Did you notice the scenes where the mouths and the words didn't synch up, or was that just me?

Derrick: It was as if I were watching a kung-fu flick. There's no reason why actor's mouths and the words they are speaking aren't in synch (and I don't mean the boy band).

Chris: Another thing I noticed was the fact that the child in the movie had like four lines that didn't contribute to the plot. Why did his parents let him do this craptastic movie?

Derrick: Can't answer that. All I can say is that he gave a forgettable performance just like every other person in the film. There were no standout roles in this picture.

Chris: We should tell our readers that this movie was made two years ago and was never released in theatres. Now we see why.

Derrick: I'm sure it was because that anyone with eyes could see that this movie was going to suck.

Chris: There was no redeeming quality to this film. It sucked plain and simple, there is no reason to go see it.

Derrick: For those who don't quite get what my partner is saying let me break it down; don't waste your money on this piece of futuristic poo. The movie looks terrible, the acting is deplorable and the special effects are cheesy. If you have to see it, take something with you for entertainment.

Derrick Chris

Calendar of Events

Thursday, March 9
10:25 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
Coffee House Series – Scott Celani
UC Port

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Conflict Resolution
UC Red River Room

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Writing Workshop
BH 201

Friday, March 10
4:30 p.m.
Tailgate Party - LSUS Baseball
Pilot's Field

Saturday, March 11
8 a.m.
Practice Entrance Exams

8 a.m.
LSUS Danceline Tryouts
HPE Gym/Dance Studio

Tuesday, March 14
10:25 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
360 SAB Style

10:30 a.m.
Biology Club Meeting

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Professionalism -Group 1

7 p.m.
Women's Awareness Speaker

Thursday, March 16
10:25 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
St. Patrick's Day Celebration
UC Lobby

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Professionalism -Group 2

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Planning for your Sophomore Year
UC Theater

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